

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 MC-02

ACDA-10 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /082 W

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R 091231Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8750

INFO: RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 3875

AMEMBASSY DAMACUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS AMMAN 4124

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, JO, SA, USA

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER BADRAN ANNOUNCES HAWK MISSILE DEAL "ALMOST COMPLETED"

1. AMMAN PRESS AUG 8 FEATURED COMMENTS MADE IN TAIF BY PM BADRAN, WHO IS TRAVELLING AS PART OF KING HUSSEIN'S ENTOURAGE ON CURRENT SWING THROUGH SAUDI ARABIA AND GULF. ACCORDNG TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, BADRAN MADE COMMENTS FOLLOWING TALKS HELD BETWEEN SAUDI AND JORDANIAN MONARCH AND THEIR ACCOMPANYING DELEGATIONS.

A. SAUD ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. "JORDAN FEELS THAT SAUDI ARABIA IS FIRST AMONG THE ARAB STATES WHICH OFFER AID AND SUBSIDIES TO JORDAN. THIS IS NOT STRANGE, SINCE WE HAVE BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO SUCH SACRIFICES FROM OUR SAUDI BROTHERS, LED BY KING KHALID."

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B. HAWKS. "IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ABOUT THE HAWK MISSILES TRANSACTION, MR. BADRAN SAID: 'I DELIVERED A STATEMENT ONE WEEK AGO (AMMAN 4000)...IN WHICH I STATED THAT ALL THE OBSTACLES WHICH HAD IMPEDED THIS TRANSACTION HAD BEEN RESOLVED. I SAID AS WELL THAT CREDIT FOR RESOLVING THE DIFFICULTIES, WHICH AROSE AS A RESULT OF AN INCREASE IN WORLD PRICES, COULD GO TO SAUDI ARABIA. NOW I CAN STATE THAT THE MISSILES DEAL IS ALMOST COMPLETED. SAUDI ARABIA IS MOST SURELY TO BE THANKED FOR THE ASSISTANCE IT OFFERS TO SISTERLY JORDAN, BOTH IN THE FIELD OF AIR DEFENSE AND IN OTHER AREAS.'"

2. NO FURTHER ELABORATION ON THESE COMMENTS IN LOCAL PRESS AUG. 9, ASIDE FROM EDITORIAL DISCUSSING SAUDI ROLE AS PART OF JORDAN'S "STRATEGIC DEPTH" AGAINST ISRAEL.
PICKERING

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NNN

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